



OCTOBER 2026

NEWSLETTER



Christ Church Parish Kent Island
830 Romancoke Road
Stevensville, MD 21666
www.ccpki.org
410.643.5921

The Rev. Frank B Crumbaugh III, Priest-in-Charge
The Rev. Melody Sutherland, Deacon
Dr. Gary Van Essen, Minister of Music
Ms. Alesia Grier, Family Ministry Coordinator
Mrs. Brenda Faulkner, Parish Administrator

IN THIS ISSUE

A Word from Fr. Frank

A Word from Our Sr. Warden

New HVAC

Music Ministry

Parish Calendar

Serving Chart

Family Ministry News

CECDS News

Food Drive

Celebration of Ministries

an unlikely theologian speaks

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“It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat.”

- Theodore Roosevelt, Paris, 23 April 1910

This quotation, known in scholarly shorthand as “*The Man in the Arena*,” is taken from TR’s “*Citizenship in a Republic*” address delivered at the Sorbonne. Scholars regard it as one of his finest post-Presidential orations. Though describing citizenship in the secular civil body politic, this famous member of Christ Church, Oyster Bay inadvertently comments accurately on life in the Church as well. TR’s words remind us

-that our life of Faith is not a spectator sport

-that we are not in an advisory capacity to God or anyone else until we’re asked
(and God hasn’t asked recently so far as I can tell)

-and that idle talk, unasked advice and commentary, and criticism are cheap, as likely to be incorrect or counterproductive as not, and usually ignorant and mean-spirited.

Our Faith invites us onto the dance floor with God, and it is better to step on His feet and follow awkwardly than not be there. Our Faith is expressed in action that would rather risk mistake than assure safety. Our Faith respects failed effort more than it respects exquisite analysis and idle gossip commentary. Our Faith invites us to live out of the best side of ourselves rather than waiting to remark when someone else doesn’t. Our Faith assures us that it is better to have striven and lost than to have hidden God-given resources for fear of losing them.

When those around you snipe.... when they Monday-morning quarterback you, and offer unsolicited advice, or worse yet, they offer criticism meant to hurt you while veiled in pious talk and earnest mien.... when they ask a question in arched, measured tones, hoping to embarrass you, all the while innocently smiling.... recall TR’s words.

Be of good cheer. If you’re annoying weak mean-spirited people, you’re probably in the arena.

The Collect for All Sorts and Conditions of Men comforts us:

“O God, the creator and preserver of all mankind, we humbly beseech thee for all sorts and conditions of men; that thou wouldst be pleased to make thy ways known unto them, thy saving health unto all nations. More especially we pray for thy holy Church universal; that it may be so guided and governed by thy good Spirit, that all who profess and call themselves Christians may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life. Finally, we commend to thy fatherly goodness all those who are in any ways afflicted or distressed, in mind, body, or estate, especially those for whom our prayers are desired, that it may please thee to comfort and relieve them according to their several necessities, giving them patience under their sufferings, and a happy issue out of all their afflictions. And this we beg for Jesus Christ’s sake. **Amen.**”

For all that has been, **Thanks.** For all that will be, **Yes.**

A WORD FROM OUR SENIOR WARDEN

Lois Vanderbok, Sr Warden

On Sunday, October 4th, Christ Church will hold a Diocesan Discernment session. This session will include a video presentation and discussion. All churches in the Diocese of Easton have been asked to participate and return their feedback. These parish sessions provide information to the Discernment Committee and Standing Committee of the Diocese to map a path forward for the future of the Diocese of Easton. Since the retirement of Bishop Marray, Bishop Shand has been serving as our Assisting Bishop on a part time basis. While we love Bishop Shand, the Diocese of Easton needs to define a sustainable plan for its future, and for that, we need your input. Please plan to attend at 9:00 am.

Our third annual Trunk or Treat will be held on Saturday, October 24, 2026 in the parking lot. Having participated in our last two events, I can promise you a great time seeing all of the families and children in costumes. This is a wonderful opportunity to welcome the community and offer a glimpse of our welcoming parish. Decorate your car if you can, bring some candy or treats and spread the love. Alesia Grier, our Family Ministry Coordinator, works hard each year to make it bigger and better. Thank you to Alesia, Avery and Jordan for all of your time and energy.

Our Celebration of Ministries was a big hit this year. Many thanks to Brenda Faulkner, Parish Administrator, for coordinating setting up and taking down all of the great exhibits. Several ministries had people signing up to learn more about the ministries, and our Music Minister, Gary Van Essen tells me that there was great interest in a youth handbell group!

I happened to walk into the church early one Thursday morning, to find the Backpack Meals for Children in full swing. I cannot tell you how amazing it is to see all of these volunteers working like a finely honed machine, filling bags and transporting them to the waiting delivery cars. The number of bags that go out to food insecure children is staggering. What I did not see were the volunteers who came in earlier to set up all of the tables and sort out all of the items that go into these bags. It just reminded me of how many people also serve in the background of our ministries so that everything works seamlessly.

Our church is growing and thriving. We are blessed with beautiful music, dedicated volunteers, fun events, great families, and a loving, caring priest. I thank God every day for being a part of the wonderful church home.

See you in church!

Lois

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for parishioners who would be interested in doing a bible study or book study on Sunday evenings from 5:30- 7:00 p.m., this year. We can have one person who takes it on or a rotating group to do a bible study. In the past, this has been very popular for both our Youth Group parents and others. If you are interested, please contact Lois Vanderbok at srwarden@ccpki.org, or call the office.

New 15-Ton HVAC Installed

One of the large HVAC units in Christ Church needed some costly repairs or replacement. The Vestry decided it was much better to replace the failing unit.



It was an exciting day, watching the crane lift the new unit over the treetops and into the fenced area.

Thanks to John Reckord and Shoreline Comfort for a job well done!



Ringin' in a New Season: Handbell Workshop Sparks Creativity

On Saturday, September 12th, 32 ringers gathered in Shand Hall for a dynamic handbell workshop led by Larry and Debbie Henning, directors of the Westminster Ringers. The event brought together talented musicians from Severna Park UMC, St. Margaret's Episcopal Church, and Christ Church.

During the morning session, Larry and Debbie guided the ringers through a variety of exercises designed to make their technique safer, more precise, and deeply musical. After a hearty lunch—lovingly organized by Lindy Coltharp and Molly Canon—and a wonderful time of fellowship, the combined choir tackled a new piece titled “Technique Buffet,” which masterfully incorporated nearly every handbell technique.

The day was both highly informative and enriching for everyone involved. Mark your calendars to hear the Christ Church Handbell Choir perform for the first time this season during the 10 a.m. worship service on October 4th!



Maryland State Boychoir at Christ Church

Join us at Christ Church on **Thursday, November 12th at 7:30 p.m.** for a special performance by the celebrated Tour Choir of the Maryland State Boychoir. As the most advanced of the organization's five ensembles, this talented group has toured globally and graced renowned stages like the Meyerhoff Symphony Hall, the National Cathedral, and the Kennedy Center.

While the choir has previously joined us for Sunday morning worship, this marks their first full-length concert here, featuring a vibrant selection of sacred, secular, spiritual, and pop music. If you have never experienced the incredible sound this diverse group of young voices can create, prepare to be inspired. The concert is free and open to the public, so consider inviting a friend or neighbor! A free-will offering will be received to support the choir.



October 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1 10:00 Exercise Class 2:30-5:30 Soup Sales 6:00 Handbell Choir Rehearsal	2 7:30 AA Meeting 7:30 Al-Anon Meeting	3 2:00 AA Meeting
4 8:00 Worship Service 9:00 Diocesan Discernment Meeting 10:00 Worship Service 11:25 Choir Rehearsal 6:00 Youth Group	5 5:00 Evening Prayer 6PM Sm Grp Mtg	6 5:00 Evening Prayer 7:00 Troop #1631	7 5:00 Evening Prayer 6:00 Women's AA Mtg 7:30 AA Meeting	8 10:00 Exercise Class 2:30-5:30 Soup Sales 5:00 Evening Prayer	9 7:30 AA Meeting 7:30 Al-Anon Meeting	10 2:00 AA Meeting
11 8:00 Worship Service 10:00 Worship Service 11:25 Choir Rehearsal 6:00 Youth Group	12 1:00 Cemetery Com 5:00 Evening Prayer	13 2:00 EfM 5:00 Evening Prayer 7:00 Troop #1631	14 5:00 Evening Prayer 6:00 Women's AA Mtg 7:00 Finance Committee Meeting 7:30 AA Meeting	15 10:00 Exercise Class 2:30-5:30 Soup Sales 5:00 Evening Prayer 6:00 Handbell Choir Rehearsal	16 7:30 AA Meeting 7:30 Al-Anon Meeting	17 2:00 AA Meeting
18 8:00 Worship Service 10:00 Worship Service 11:25 Choir Rehearsal 6:00 Youth Group	19 5:00 Evening Prayer 6:30 Vestry Meeting	20 2:00 EfM 5:00 Evening Prayer 7:00 Troop #1631	21 5:00 Evening Prayer 6:00 Women's AA Mtg 7:30 AA Meeting	22 10:00 Exercise Class 2:30-5:30 Soup Sales 5:00 Evening Prayer	23 7:30 AA Meeting 7:30 Al-Anon Meeting	24 2:00 AA Meeting 
25 8:00 Worship Service 10:00 Worship Service 11:25 Choir Rehearsal 6:00 Youth Group	26 5:00 Evening Prayer	27 2:00 EfM 5:00 Evening Prayer 7:00 Troop #1631	28 5:00 Evening Prayer 6:00 Women's AA Mtg 7:30 AA Meeting	29 10:00 Exercise Class 2:30-5:30 Soup Sales 5:00 Evening Prayer 6:00 Handbell Choir Rehearsal	30 7:30 AA Meeting 7:30 Al-Anon Meeting	31 2:00 AA Meeting

Christ Church Office: 410-643-5921 ~ office@ccpki.org ~ www.ccpki.org

Clergy Emergencies, contact Fr. Frank Crumbaugh, Priest-in-Charge 609-709-3939

Regular Office Hours 9 am—3pm Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

4th Qtr Serving Chart 2026										
		LEM	Lectors	Ushers	Acolytes	Altar Guild	Counters	Greeters	Video Tech	Sound Tech
10/4/2026 19th Sunday after Pentecost	8AM									
		Jim Lipsner	Betsy Sipes	Lois Vanderbok						
Proper 22A						Jordan McIlwain				
Green	10AM	Juanita Dombkowski	Bob Thompson	Bernie Gast	Charlie Hoffman	Lynne Shand, Betsy Sipes, Patti Snyder, Audrey Moore, Jennifer Leach	Molly Cannon	Mary Lu Prender Toinette McDowell	Liza Hamill	Dottie Wilson
Eucharistic Prayer - A		Keith Fulmer	Dottie Wilson	John Thompson			Liza Hamill			
10/11/2026 20th Sunday after Pentecost	8AM									
		Lois Vanderbok	Maria Jones	Maria Jones						
Proper 23A						Jordan McIlwain				
Green	10AM	Patti Snyder	Liza Hamill	Charlie Mead	Charlie Hoffman Lilly & Emma May	DeeDee & Kevin McCracken, Eileen Shreve, Carole Tulip	Judy Peppel		Dottie Wilson	Tim Aland
		Bob Rosekrans	Dave Ellwood	Leslie Schneider			Leslie Schneider			
10/18/2026 21st Sunday after Pentecost	8AM									
		Lois Vanderbok	Cathy Smith	Cathy Smith						
Proper 24A						Vivian Dorsey				
Green	10AM	Leslie Schneider	Donna Guilford	John Reckord	Avery Miller	Dot Deren, Fred & Linda Klingensmith, Julia Bollinger	Dottie Wilson	Becky Myers	Steve	Josh Dorsey
		Juanita Dombkowski	Keith Fulmer	Jone Taylor	Kai Moore		Judy Peppel	Connie Clark	Dombkowski	
10/25/2026 22nd Sunday after Pentecost	8AM									
		Jim Lipsner	Thom Hirsch	Maria Jones		Maria Jones, Nancy Link, Becky Myers				
Proper 25A										
Green	10AM	Liza Hamill	Helen Vansant	Ron McCready	Jordan McIlwain		Kate McNealey	Caroline Aland	Bill Vanderbok	Dan Staroneck
		Lois Vanderbok	Pat Spinella	Laurelle McCready	Charlie Hoffman		Judy Peppel	Susie Reckord		
11/1/2026 All Saints Sunday	8AM									
		Lois Vanderbok	Betsy Sipes	Cathy Smith						
All Saints A						Lynne Shand, Betsy Sipes, Patti Snyder, Audrey Moore, Jennifer Leach				
White	10AM	Lisa Herlihy	Caroline Aland	John Thompson			Molly Cannon	Mary Lu Prender Toinette McDowell	Liza Hamill	Dottie Wilson
		Patrick Herlihy	Beverly Cooper	Bob Rosekrans			Liza Hamill			

FAMILY MINISTRY NEWS: FAITH, FELLOWSHIP & FUN!

Alesia Grier, Family Ministry Coordinator

Hey Families!

There's SO much happening in Family Ministry, and we can't wait to experience it all together! From growing in our faith to serving others, learning, laughing, and building community, this month is packed with opportunities for our children, youth, and families to connect with God and one another.

This month in Youth Group, we're diving into **Global Diversity and the Biblical Perspective**! We'll explore what the Bible teaches us about people from different cultures, backgrounds, and experiences and what it means for us as followers of Christ to recognize, celebrate, and respect the diversity God created. And speaking of Youth Group... **WE'RE BACK!**

Our youth have spoken, and they have made it very clear: one hour just isn't enough! By a unanimous vote, the Youth Group will continue meeting on Sundays, but we're extending our time together!

New Youth Group Time: 5:30 PM–7:00 PM



Join

YOUTH GROUP

Grades 6th-12th

Come together in faith and friendship

- Encouraging devotional message
- Time with other youth
- Volunteer opportunities
- Youth Retreats
- Homework help & more

EVERY SUNDAY 5:30-7 PM

830 Romancoke Rd
Steveniville, Md 21666

All youth welcome!

Email:
familyministry@ccpki.org

Facebook:
Christ Church Kent Island
Family Ministry

More time means more fellowship, more fun, more meaningful conversations, and more opportunities to grow together in faith! This month, Sunday School is serving up an important lesson about **the importance of eating together** and we don't mean just sharing a meal! We'll explore the spiritual meaning behind gathering around the table, what Scripture teaches us about fellowship and community, and why taking care of ourselves and one another matters.

Together, we'll discover how something as simple as sharing a meal can create opportunities for connection, love, encouragement, and spiritual growth. Come hungry for learning, fellowship, and maybe a little fun along the way!

Calling all **new and current acolytes ages 8–18!**



ACOLYTE TRAINING FOR NEW & CURRENT MEMBERS

Q: What is an Acolyte?

A: A member of the parish who assists the clergy during the liturgy

Class Requirements

- 8-18 years old
- Attend the trainings
- Able to serve twice per quarter (2 times every three months)



Oct. 11th, 18th, & 25th
10:30 AM - 11:30 AM



Christ Church's
Sanctuary

For More Info
contact Alesia Grier

(410) 643-5921

www.familyministry@ccpki.org



It's time to get ready to serve! We'll be holding Acolyte Training in the **Sanctuary** on the following dates:
October 11, 18 & 25, 10:30 AM–11:30 AM

Training will take place **right after service**. Whether you're brand new to serving or already an experienced acolyte, we want **YOU** there! Come learn, refresh your skills, and prepare to serve with confidence.

Can you believe it? It's almost time for our 3rd Annual Trunk or Treat Fest! **Saturday, October 24th, 1:00 PM–3:00 PM**

We're hoping to make it bigger and better than ever! But we need **YOU** to help make the fun happen!

Volunteers Needed!

We're looking for volunteers to help with:

- Set-up and/or clean-up
- Directing traffic
- Taking photos
- Helping others decorate their cars

And of course...

YOU CAN'T HAVE A TRUNK OR TREAT WITHOUT CANDY!

We are also accepting candy or treat donations to help make sure we have plenty of treats for everyone! Whether you can volunteer your time, donate candy, decorate a trunk, or simply help spread the word, every contribution makes a difference!

If you or someone you know would like to be part of this fun-filled event, please email:

familyministry@ccpki.org

Family Ministry is all about creating spaces where children, youth, and families can grow in faith, build friendships, serve others, and have **FUN** together!

We've got a lot happening, and we want **YOU** to be part of it.



Christ Episcopal Church Day School

The first few weeks of school are now behind us, and it's always such a joy to see how quickly our young students adjust to new routines and begin forming wonderful bonds with their teachers.

We are pleased that all our staff returned for this new school year. We are planning to add many fun and exciting activities to our calendar this year so stay tuned! You can follow us on Instagram (kicecds) and Facebook (Christ Episcopal Church Day School).



October is Fire Safety Month, and we are so grateful to the KIVFD for visiting us each year—something they've been doing for at least the last 31 years! They will be visiting us this month to teach us about fire safety and give the children the exciting opportunity to tour a fire truck. October is filled with festive fall activities. Our Harvest Week will surely be a highlight, complete with our very own Farmer's Market on the playground and a variety of fall-themed games led by the CECDS PTO. We're hoping for some crisp autumn weather to add to the spirit of the season!

To learn more about our staff and programs, please visit our website at www.cecds.org

FOOD DRIVE WAS GREAT SUCCESS

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to the Haven Ministries Food Drive! Christ Church collected an amazing **610 pounds of food**. If you missed the drive, don't worry; you can drop off donations anytime in the cart in the narthex.



FOOD DRIVE

Drop off Items between August 30th and September 13th
at Christ Church Parish Kent Island

Cereal	Oatmeal	Children's Diapers- size 3, 4, 5
Canned Fruit	Pasta, Pasta Sauce	Diaper wipes
Canned meats-(Ham, spam, chicken, Vienna sausage, tuna fish)	Ramen Noodles	Feminine Products
Canned vegetables	Rice-a-Roni	Cleaning Supplies
Condiments	2lb bags of sugar	Toilet Paper
Individually wrapped snacks	Shelf stable milks and juices	Paper Towels
Mac-n-cheese Cups	Vegetable Oil	Toiletries
	White rice	

This is not an exclusive list. Any donations are greatly appreciated.
Thank you so much for supporting the food drive and Haven Ministries!







Celebration of Ministries

On Sunday, September 20th Christ Church held a Celebration of Ministries after each worship service. Parishioners had the opportunity to see our ministries represented in a fun atmosphere with signup sheets, colorful décor, candies and information sheets. If you did not attend the celebration and would like more information on any of the ministries, please contact the leaders listed.



Christ Church Leadership Team

Position	Name	Primary Email	Phone Number
Priest-in-Charge	The Rev'd Frank B Crumbaugh III	rector@ccpki.org	609-709-3939
Sr. Warden	Lois Vanderbok	srwarden@ccpki.org	847-650-2680
Jr. Warden	John Reckord	jrwarden@ccpki.org	410-365-5053
Treasurer	Kate McNealey	treasurer@ccpki.org	443-926-6956

Christ Church Ministry Leaders

Ministry	Leader	Primary Email	Phone Number
Acolytes	Alesia Grier	familyministry@ccpki.org	410-643-5921
Altar Guild	Lynne Shand	altarguild@ccpki.org	410-829-2481
Altar Guild	Patti Snyder	altarguild@ccpki.org	410-739-8094
Backpacks Meals for Kids	Kathy Sells	backpacks@ccpki.org	410-490-6042
Broad Creek Cemetery	Charlie Schwan	broadcreek@ccpki.org	443-262-1074
Building, Grounds, and Maintenance	John Reckord	jrwarden@ccpki.org	410-365-5053
Building Rentals	Brenda Faulkner	rentals@ccpki.org	410-643-5921
CECDS (Day School)	Lisa Oesterling	director@cecds.org	410-643-8248
Connections Ministry	Juanita Dombkowski	connections@ccpki.org	410-310-0139
Counters	Judy Peppel	judypeppel@yahoo.com	410-643-5112
Education for Ministry-(EfM)	Connie Clark	connieclark2020@outlook.com	610-212-6366
Education for Ministry-(EfM)	Lois Vanderbok	srwarden@ccpki.org	847-650-2680
Eucharistic Ministers	Brenda Faulkner	office@ccpki.org	410-643-5921
Family Ministry	Alesia Grier	familyministry@ccpki.org	410-643-5921
Finance Committee	Cary Gates	finance@ccpki.org	443-481-0914
Greeters	Molly Cannon	mollycannon@yahoo.com	410-991-6752
Haven Ministries Food Pantry	Susie Reckord	reckord405@gmail.com	410-493-3452
Haven Ministries Homeless Shelter	Leslie Schneider	lschneider3@msn.com	410-310-4085
Hospitality/Soup Group	Lindy Coltharp	soupgroupies@gmail.com	410-212-6269
Lectors	Leona Parker	leona.parker22@gmail.com	301-807-8503
Music Ministry	Gary Van Essen	music@ccpki.org	443-413-3172
Stewardship	Molly Cannon	mollycannon@yahoo.com	410-991-6752
Ushers	John Reckord	reckord405@gmail.com	410-365-5053